

THE Dog Face Daily

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Serving Task Force Marne

5-7 Cav. Regt. transforms former enemy stronghold

SGT. LUIS DELGADILLO
2ND BCT, 3RD INF. DIV.

FOB KALSU — After only six days of operations out of Patrol Base Meade, Soldiers assigned to the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division began to see results of their cooperation with community leaders in Sayafiyah, south of Baghdad, Jan 27.

During the operations, Troops B and C, 5th Squadron, 7th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Inf. Div., established security in villages near the patrol base leaving one troop, Troop A, to handle security further south.

Troop A, accompanied by Lt. Col. Clifford Wheeler, 5-7 Cav. Regt. commander, was to establish a foothold in Sayafiyah, on the banks of the Tigris River approximately 15 kilometers southeast of PB Meade. Their arrival uncovered more than expected.

As the route clearance team marked improvised explosive devices, Troop A cleared buildings and together made their way to the town, a suspected terrorist safe haven.

Opening the road to Sayafiyah was no small feat. Residents of Sayafiyah, who had volunteered to assist Coalition Forces locating IEDs were out in front of route clearance vehicles, looking for tell-tale signs of the deadly traps.

The local volunteers came forward to assist earlier in the month when Sayafiyah community leaders met with the commander of 2nd BCT, 3rd Inf. Div., Col. Terry Ferrell. Ferrell assured Sayafiyah leaders his Soldiers would be conducting operations to establish a long term presence in the region.



Sgt. Luis Delgadillo

A Soldier with 5th Squadron, 7th Cavalry Regiment, enjoys a feast presented by the residents of Sayafiyah Jan. 27 south of Baghdad.

With the assurance, the regional leaders agreed to assist clearing vital roads, which would eventually be used to deliver supplies and equipment to troops staying in the city.

1st Lt. Robert Seiter, platoon leader with Troop A., said that he and his fellow Soldiers recently came from an area with a completely different security situation.

Seiter said in the unit's previous location, west of Fallujah, the Soldiers established a rapport with neighboring villagers which enabled troops to employ a less aggressive security plan.

Spc. John D. Gilga, a cavalry scout with Troop A, said though he was focused on the mission venturing south, he was still nervous heading into unfamiliar territory.

The foot patrol was slow and deliberate. The Troop A Soldiers encountered two corroding IEDs, which did not have initiating devices attached.

While the danger of pressure plate IEDs remains, residents said that most, if not all, insurgents in the area had fled.

It was close to noon when Troop A and its commander reached their destination, a lively rustic farming community.

To the Soldiers' surprise, community residents and local leaders were on hand to greet them.

Wheeler and the leaders spoke at length on issues facing the region and the future of Coalition Forces in the area.

Wheeler was able to secure a building for Troop A's observation post and the residents were assured that a Concerned Local Citizens group would be established.

As night fell, a crowd of local residents gathered to watch their new neighbors dismantle the front gate of their new post.

INHALANT ABUSE

What you should know about this deadly habit

MAJ. CHRISTOPHER WARNER
MND-C DIVSURG OFFICE

Inhalants, due to their ease of availability, are some of the most commonly abused substances in the United States.

Studies show that up to 20 percent of adolescents have “experimented” with them by the age of 18. It is an ongoing issue throughout the Iraqi Theater of Operations and recent assessments of Soldiers in Iraq have found that inhalants, along with alcohol, are the two most commonly abused substances.

Additionally, at least two deaths in Iraq in 2007 were noted to be due to inhalant abuse.

Inhalants are not drugs, but rather the term refers to breathing in toxic fumes to “get high.” It is also called “bagging” or “huffing,” which refers to some of the various methods of inhaling the fumes.

There are many substances which can be used, such as fuel, glue, household cleaners, paint thinners and aerosol sprays.

When inhaled, these toxins can cause a rapid and short-lived “high” which may result in feelings of euphoria and making the user sleepy and disoriented.

However, inhalants are by no means safe and can have serious consequences, including death, even on the first use.

The short-lasting effects make them

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Photo illustration by Spc. Emily J. Wilsoncroft

THE Dog Face Daily

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4th Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division
3rd Combat Aviation Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division
214th Fires Brigade
7th Sustainment Brigade
720th Military Police Battalion
302nd Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

INHALANTS

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highly addictive and they can result in permanent damage to multiple organ systems including the brain and can cause seizures. In some cases they can result in immediate death due to irritability to the heart. Studies have shown that one in five deaths due to inhalants occurred on the first use.

Indications of use include frequent confusion or disorientation, burns or sores around the nose and mouth, and storing of large quantities of or inappropriate substances in their personal areas such as fuel or a large number of aerosol cans in their trailer.

Several units have attempted to ban aerosols in theater, but most programs have been ineffective due to the availability of inhalants in the workplace.

Some programs that have been effective have limited or banned certain substances in the private living areas.

However, the most effective prevention methods are through Soldier education on the risks of inhalants and a strong command emphasis.

It is important to ensure that all Soldiers recognize the serious risks of inhalant abuse and junior leaders should look for the warning signs of abuse. All Soldiers should be educated on the serious negative repercussions that inhalant abuse can have on their career including non-judicial punishment, loss of special status (such as flight status or security clearance) and potential restriction of duties.

The bottom line is that inhalant abuse is deadly. It is the responsibility of all MND-C Soldiers to help prevent the Soldiers on their left and right from falling victim to this killer. For more information about the risks and impact of inhalant abuse, contact your Brigade Surgeon.

Reconstruction dominates provincial council meeting

SGT. 1ST CLASS STACY NILES
214TH FIRES BRIGADE

FOB DELTA — The Wasit Provincial Council met Jan. 26. The commander of the 214th Fires Brigade and the Wasit Provincial Reconstruction Team leader were on hand to brief council members on Coalition Forces' reconstruction efforts in the area.

Col. Peter Baker, 214th FB commander, said that more than \$4 million has been spent on reconstruction in the last eight months under his watch.

"The projects completed include healthcare, transportation, education, electricity, agriculture, water and business development," Baker said.

Baker said more initiatives were pending, including water purification and distribution and housing.

These projects were funded by the Commanders' Emergency Response Program, which enables commanders to spend funds needed in the near term.

Additionally, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers are managing projects overseen and implemented by Iraqi construction companies, totaling over \$25 million. These include road and bridge repair and construction, electricity and water projects and healthcare programs.

"I came here to ... let you know we, the Coalition Forces, are working very hard with you and all of the Wa-

sit officials to improve the life of all citizens in Wasit," Baker said. "Building institutions for law, engineers, healthcare, education and security forces, takes time—years."

Towards improving healthcare, Coalition Forces are providing Iraqi doctors with training seminars, Baker said.

Since 2004, \$200 million has been expended to complete more than 180 projects in Wasit province. They have affected every facet of life, from police, fire and border control, water and electricity, to healthcare and education. More than 70 school projects were undertaken.

Wade Weems, 214th FB PRT leader, said the team is working with all levels of government to make changes to improve the province. The PRT works with both the provincial government and embassy in Baghdad to make changes needed at the national level.

The PRT is currently waiting for the approval of several initiatives, including a meat market and a fish market. The PRT is also working to energize private and public agriculture business in the province.

Touching on economic development, Weems encouraged the council to identify training programs that would enhance the business industry.

"Agriculture and business development are the two most important things we are working on," Weems said.

Safety Thought of the Day

Military Working Dogs

- Dog team handlers' safety brief, expectations and limitations of the team during combat patrol briefs.
 - Soldiers know what actions should be taken in the event that the handler is critically injured or the K-9 is injured.
 - Approach K-9 team from the right side and announce yourself.
 - Never attempt to pet K-9 without permission.
 - Soldiers stand clear of dog team, giving them a 10-foot radius.
- Gunners to warn handlers to take positive

- control of K-9 prior to firing warning shots.
- Gun truck crew should avoid making eye contact with K-9, such as STARES.
- Soldiers MUST NOT horseplay around K-9, as this will be misinterpreted as sign of aggression by the dog.
- Soldiers DO NOT chase after K-9 once the dog is engaged in apprehension of a detainee.
 - K-9 does not differentiate between good vs. bad.
- For more information please see AR 190-12, DA PAM 190-12, and FM 3-19-17.



File photo

Headline Highlights

Librarian's \$8 million art trove; lottery wish

Man struggles to return from the dead

WARSAW (Reuters) — Red tape is preventing a Polish man from returning from the dead.

Piotr Kucy, 38 and from the city of Polkowice in southwest Poland, was wrongly identified by authorities last August as a drowned man, only to show up a few days after his own funeral.

Despite pointing out the fact that he was alive to government officials, Kucy still remains dead in official records, stopping him from working and paying social insurance. But on the bright side, a local newspaper reported on Tuesday, he no longer needs to pay taxes.

"We are nearly through January, and my documents still say I'm dead," Kucy told *Gazeta Wyborcza*, adding: "It's a bit of a joke." But a registry office official was adamant about the situation. "This citizen does not exist," she told the paper.

Librarian amassed \$8 million art trove

LONDON (Reuters) — From the outside it's an ordinary, red-brick house in a terraced row, not unlike tens of thousands of others scattered across Britain.

But on the inside, Jean Preston's spartan Oxford home contained works of art of international significance, carefully acquired over a lifetime and haphazardly displayed.

Preston, a thrifty 77-year-old spinster who rode the bus and ate frozen meals, died in 2006. But art experts and auctioneers have now completed the

sale of the exceptional works hoarded in her modest home. The auctions have raised an estimated 4 million pounds (\$7.95 million), according to valuers, about 20 times the price of the house they were kept in, stunning experts and Preston's relatives alike.

Among the treasures were two paintings by Fra Angelico, the 15th century Italian Renaissance master, that were the missing pieces of an eight-part altar decoration. They were sold together for \$3.4 million and are expected to be returned to the Uffizi Gallery, Florence's famed art museum.

"We knew we were going to a house that contained some important works," Guy Schwinge of Dukes art auctioneers in Dorchester, which helped with the sale, told Reuters. "But I was amazed to see quite how many treasures there were ... The Fra Angelicos were behind the bedroom door and we only spotted them on the way out."

Hanging in the kitchen was a 19th century watercolor by pre-Raphaelite artist Dante Gabriel Rossetti, and in the sitting room, above an electric fire, a work by Sir Edward Burne-Jones.

Those two, estimated to be worth \$2 million, have been saved for Britain and are expected to go on display at Oxford's Ashmolean Museum.

Another hidden treasure was a rare edition of the works of Chaucer that was too big to fit on Preston's bookshelf and was found buried in a wardrobe. It sold for nearly \$150,000.

"We often go to fabulous homes to evaluate artworks, but in this case the house was just so modest from the outside, and had very modest decor on the inside too," said Schwinge.

"It's just rare to stumble across something quite so breathtaking."

Preston, who worked as a librarian for much of her life, inherited many of the works from her father, a keen collector. Her relatives were stunned by the artworks she had tucked away.

"My aunt bought her clothes from a catalog, ate frozen meals and went everywhere on the bus," the *Daily Mail* newspaper quoted one of them as saying. "Who would have thought she had the equivalent of a winning lottery ticket in her spare room all these years?"

Lottery winner's sweet wish

LONDON (Reuters) — Retired hospital porter Steve Smith, who is suffering from a potentially fatal heart defect, won almost 19 million pounds (\$38 million) on Britain's National Lottery — but said he would give it all up if he could spend a few more years living with his wife Ida.

"I have a one in 10 chance of living. It's like a ticking time bomb," said the 58-year-old Smith, enjoying a bitter-sweet glass of celebratory champagne with his wife Ida.

Smith, who has an aortic aneurysm, told reporters when collecting his check: "It's Ida I worry for, it's leaving her behind. I would give all that back if I am allowed to still be with her because there are no shops in the cemetery are there?"

Smith landed the giant prize with an extra stroke of luck — the couple stopped off on the way home from a family visit to buy some lucky dip tickets and it was one of those which hit the jackpot.

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3	8		2	6		9		1
	4							
		2			8		3	

from Sudoku: The Original Brain Workout From Japan

Solution to yesterday's puzzle:

9	3	4	8	1	7	6	5	2
2	1	7	6	9	5	8	4	3
8	5	6	4	3	2	1	7	9
6	7	2	1	5	3	9	8	4
5	4	9	7	8	6	3	2	1
3	8	1	2	4	9	7	6	5
1	6	5	3	7	4	2	9	8
7	9	8	5	2	1	4	3	6
4	2	3	9	6	8	5	1	7

ARABIC WORD OF THE DAY

Thursday

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